

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /090 W

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R 070654Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4178

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

UNCLAS SEOUL 3620

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KS, US

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO DEFENSE SECRETARY'S TESTIMONY

1. JUNE 6 AND 7 PRESS HAS GIVEN FRONT PAGE ATTENTION TO DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER EVER RISING TENSION IN KOREA AND HIS ARGUMENT FOR CONTINUING U.S. SUPPORT FOR SOUTH KOREA.

2. CITING SECRETARY'S TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE JUNE 5 PRESS ARTICLES HIGHLIGHT SECRETARY'S SUPPORT FOR ADMINISTRATION PROPOSED MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON GROUNDS THAT MILITARY BALANCE IN AREA OF GREAT POWER INFLUENCE IS ESSENTIAL FOR DETERRENCE, DEFENSE, AND SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH. SCHLESINGER ALSO REPORTED SAYING ASSISTANCE NECESSARY "TO KEEP OPEN THE FUTURE PROSPECT FOR FURTHER REDUCTIONS OF U.S. FORCES." DONGA ILBO GOES ON TO REPORT SECRETARY'S COMMENT THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR IMMEDIATE PULL OUT OF U.S. FORCES.

3. SECRETARY ALSO REPORTED AS REMINDING CONGRESSMEN OF CONTINUED FLOW OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO NORTH KOREA FROM USSR PARTICULARLY IN FIELD OF AIR POWER.

4. IN ARTICLES ON SCHLESINGER TESTIMONY ROK PRESS HAS ALSO  
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COVERED JCS CHAIRMAN MOORE'S REMARKS TO HFAC THAT "SOUTH KOREA,

WHERE THE INTERESTS OF FOUR MAJOR POWERS CONVERGE, FACES A FORMIDABLE THREAT" AND THAT "FUNDING SHORT-FALLS" FOR MOD PROGRAM "HAVE DRASTICALLY SLOWED THE PACE OF THIS EFFORT." MOORER ALSO REPORTED IN MOST PAPERS AS POINTING OUT THAT NORTH KOREA HAS LAID CLAIM TO THE WATERS SURROUNDING FIVE UN CONTROLLED AND OCCUPIED ISLANDS. TWO PAPERS HAVE MOORER SAYING THAT NORTH HAS CLAIMED ISLANDS THEMSELVES.

5. IN SEPARATE ITEMS ALSO APPEARING ON FRONT PAGES, JUNE 6 AND 7 PAPERS QUOTE FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER TO SENATOR STENNIS ON SENATOR MANSFIELD'S PROPOSAL TO CUT OVERSEAS FORCES. SECRETARY REPORTED AS CONTENDING THAT FORCING TROOP CUTS ABROAD COULD DESTABILIZE SITUATION IN WESTERN EUROPE AND SABOTAGE U.S. EFFORTS TO CREATE "A STRUCTURE OF PEACE IN ASIA."  
ERICSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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